

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 01816 030017Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----007160 030020Z /61
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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1248
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S E C R E T JERUSALEM 1816

NODIS

STADIS//////////

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SAUNDERS AND LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, US, IS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS

REF: STATE 167982

1. SAM AND I, OF COURSE, AGREE FULLY THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO IMPLIED CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT COMING FROM EITHER OF OUR GROUPS. WE HAVE PASSED THE WORD AND CHECKED FULLY, AND WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE STORY YOU CITE DID NOT COME FROM ANY OF US. YOU MAY HAVE NOTED THAT THE SOURCING REFERS TO THE "DELEGATION" WHICH AS YOU KNOW INCLUDES A NUMBER OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL PEOPLE.

2. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE FOR YOUR OWN BACKGROUND ONLY THAT THE REPORTED REMARKS FROM WASHINGTON ABOUT GENEVA WERE MISREPORTED HERE AND BY MIDNIGHT THE DAY THEY WERE MADE WERE BEING INTERPRETED BY AT LEAST ONE ISRAELI OFFICIAL AS "ANOTHER STAB

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IN THE BACK." AGAINST THAT BACKGROUND, WE SPENT MOST OF SUNDAY TRYING TO PUT THOSE REMARKS INTO THE MOST POSITIVE LIGHT POSSIBLE HERE. ONE OF THE FINDINGS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S GROUP IS THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY HERE TO EVERY REMARK MADE FROM WASHINGTON, AND THIS EPISODE IS JUST ONE MORE EXAMPLE OF HOW AN INNOCENT STATEMENT BECOMES A CRISIS OF

CONFIDENCE OUT HERE.

3. WE REALIZE THE VICE PREISDENT HAS SENT YOU HIS
OWN RESPONSE TO YOUR TELEGRAM, BUT WE WANTED TO
LET YOU KNOW THAT WE HAVE TAKEN THE STEPS
YOU REQUESTED WITHIN OUR GROUP.
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Message Attributes

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